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THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

September 8, 1987

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MEMORANDUM FOR THE VICE PRESIDENT

THE SECRETARY OF STATE
THE SECRETARY OF DEFENSE
THE ATTORNEY GENERAL
THE SECRETARY OF ENERGY
THE DIRECTOR OF CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE

CHAIRMAN, JOINT CHIEFS OF STAFF
DIRECTOR, ARMS CONTROL AND DISARMAMENT AGENCY

SUBJECT:

Chemical Weapons (CW) Arms Control (U)

Based upon the results of the Senior Arms Control Group (SACG) meeting of August 31, 1987, and taking into account recent Soviet moves in the Conference on Disarmament (CD), this memorandum provides further guidance on Chemical Weapons (CW) arms control policy. It supplements the CW arms control policy guidance provided in the memorandum of July 2, 1987, and is fully consistent with NSDD-136 of April 2, 1984, on CW arms control and the relevant verification section of NSDD-160 of January 24, 1985. (S)

The SACG acknowledged that the USG has not identified measures that would make the US draft CW treaty sufficiently monitorable or verifiable to protect the security of the US and its Allies. The Group agreed that, in light of the obstacles to effective verification of any CW treaty, and especially in view of the CW activities underway in several countries, Cabinet officials have an obligation to inform the Congress of the situation the US confronts. (S)

It is requested that the CW Interdepartmental Group prepare by September 25 a briefing for Congress which outlines the current situation. Also, in coordination with legislative affairs sections, the CW IG should prepare an updated assessment of Congressional attitudes on CW arms control negotiations. The CW IG should provide for SACG consideration by October 9 a range of alternative approaches to CW arms control the USG might wish to pursue. (S)

The CW Interdepartmental Group is also requested to compress its existing work program schedule, with special emphasis on developing for final NSC approval, in accordance with the memorandum of July 2, public diplomacy guidance on US CW arms control objectives and

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the negotiations process. The CW IG should revise its overall comprehensive work program as required to accelerate its ability to forward to the SACG alternative approaches to CW arms control.

FOR THE PRESIDENT:

Frank C. Carlucci

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